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8 APR 1961

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Mr. Paul D. Melton  
WCBS-TV  
485 Madison Avenue  
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Melton:

I appreciate your invitation to appear on Sunday, 4 June 1961 from 4 to 4:30 PM with members of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York as panelists on the television news interview program, NEW YORK FORUM. The topic for discussion, you note, will be "What Has the CIA Learned About Communism?"

I have consistently followed my policy of not appearing as a panelist on any public program because of the secret and sensitive nature of the Central Intelligence Agency. This policy is well known to Dr. Frank Stanton and other officials of the CBS. I realize that without CIA representation a panel of members of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York will not be in a position to state accurately what the CIA has learned about communism. You may be interested, in this connection, in an address which I delivered in August 1960 in Detroit at the annual convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a copy of which is enclosed.

Again, thank you for your invitation which I regrettably must decline.

Sincerely,

**SIGNED**

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

Enclosure

ODCI/SJGrogan/nhh (7 April 1961)

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- 1 - DCI (via Reading)
- 2 - SJGrogan

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# WCBS-TV

*CBS Television Stations - A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.*

485 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N.Y. PLAZA 1-23-5

April 6, 1961

Mr. Allen Dulles  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

CBS Television in New York and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York cordially invite you to appear as their distinguished guest on New York's most widely received television news-interview program, *NEW YORK FORUM*.

The basic topic: "What Has the CIA Learned About Communism?"  
Broadcast date: Sunday, June 4, 1961  
Broadcast time: 4-4:30 PM  
Video-tape date: Friday, June 2, 1961  
The panelists: Members of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York  
The moderator: Dallas Townsend, CBS News correspondent

A uniquely extemporaneous and partisan panel news-interview of the most prominent figures in affairs of public consequence and produced and programmed in accordance with CBS standards of excellence, *NEW YORK FORUM* has become unreservedly the most influential public affairs television platform covering metropolitan areas of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

With a potential television audience of 9,000,000 adult viewers, *NEW YORK FORUM* also obtains coverage from the seven major New York newspapers (circulation 8,000,000) and is monitored by the national wire services and weekly news magazines.

7 RECD

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Mr. Dulles  
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Further, when the substance of the program warrants, excerpts are aired within regularly scheduled news programs carried by the entire CBS Television network.

Previous guests include Senators Symington, Proxmire, Dodd, Case, Keating, Javits and Goldwater; Secretaries Mueller, Flemming and Benson; Governors Meyner, Brown, Sanford, Hatfield and Harriman; Henry Cabot Lodge, General Medaris, William F. Buckley and many others.

Should you find this invitation to appear on NEW YORK FORUM of compelling interest we would appreciate an early confirmation. And further, it would be helpful if your office would send us updated personal and professional biographical material concerning yourself.

Welcoming a reply at your earliest convenience and looking forward to the honor of having you as our distinguished guest on NEW YORK FORUM, I remain

Cordially,



Paul D. Melton  
Producer  
NEW YORK FORUM

PDM/sd